



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Issue NE-CW 1508

Released April 14, 2008

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 13, 2008, precipitation in the form of rain and snow kept soils wet and producers out of the field, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Soil temperatures dropped an average of five degrees this week throughout the state staying too cool for germination of row crops. Producers received needed moisture for their small grains, pasture and alfalfa which should respond quickly with warmer temperatures. The cold, wet conditions challenged livestock producers making care of new born calves and feedlot cattle difficult. Other activities included preparing equipment for planting, hauling stored grain to the elevators and waiting to begin spring planting.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week continued cool, averaging 12 degrees below normal, with highs in the mid to upper 50's and lows in the 20's throughout the state. The entire state received some form of precipitation, with central areas receiving up to 12 inches of snow. Moisture accumulations of over an inch fell in the eastern part of the state. However, the Panhandle was limited to a quarter to an inch of moisture.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending April 13, 2008**

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Topsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 4 | 5 | 5 | 8 |
| Short | 11 | 21 | 7 | 23 |
| Adequate | 65 | 70 | 80 | 65 |
| Surplus | 20 | 4 | 8 | 4 |
| Subsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 7 | 7 | 16 | 26 |
| Short | 24 | 23 | 26 | 34 |
| Adequate | 65 | 65 | 56 | 39 |
| Surplus | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| Days Suitable | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.0 | 3.9 |

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 33 fair, 53 good, and 7 excellent, better than last week and last year. Wheat jointed was at 1 percent, behind 3 last year and 9 average.

Oats planted increased to 38 percent, ahead of last year's 32 but behind average of 57. Oats emerged was at 6 percent, the same as last year but behind 14 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 2 percent poor, 25 fair, 65 good, and 8 excellent, well above last year.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 13, 2008

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Oats Planted | 38 | 24 | 32 | 57 |
| Oats Emerged | 6 | 2 | 6 | 14 |
| Wheat Jointed | 1 | | 3 | 9 |

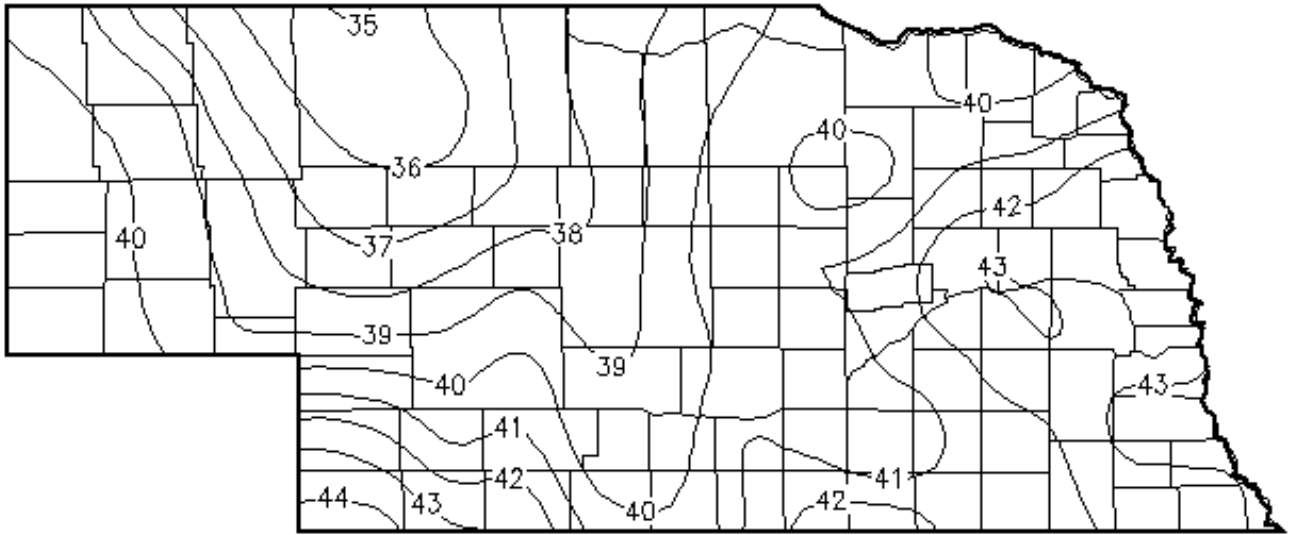
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 13, 2008

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | | |
| Alfalfa | 0 | 2 | 25 | 65 | 8 |
| Wheat | 1 | 6 | 33 | 53 | 7 |

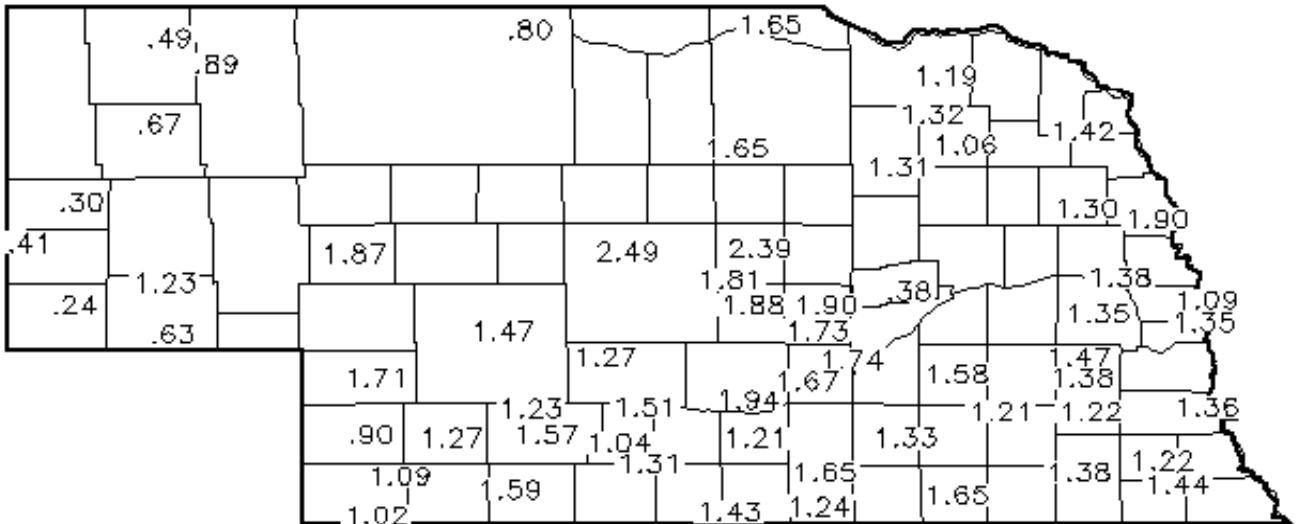
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 31 fair, 51 good, and 9 excellent, well above last year. Spring calving was 82 percent complete. Calf losses rated 9 percent below average, 89 average, and 2 above average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil
April 7 – April 13, 2008**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 13, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – April 13, 2008

| Item | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total past week | .63 | 1.36 | 1.29 | 1.72 | 1.31 | 1.30 | 1.37 | 1.40 |
| Total since April 1 | .77 | 1.47 | 1.62 | 2.07 | 1.87 | 1.60 | 1.65 | 1.84 |
| Normal since April 1 | .71 | .84 | 1.06 | 1.01 | 1.14 | .77 | .83 | 1.15 |
| Total as % of normal | 104% | 172% | 152% | 205% | 164% | 207% | 199% | 162% |

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 13, 2008

| Station | Temperature | | | | |
|---------|--------------|-----|---------|-----------|-----|
| | Extremes | | Average | Departure | |
| | High | Low | | | |
| NW | Alliance | 55 | 20 | 35 | -11 |
| | Scottsbluff | 63 | 21 | 38 | -8 |
| | Sidney | 56 | 22 | 36 | -10 |
| NC | Ainsworth | 50 | 19 | 35 | -14 |
| | Arthur | 53 | 21 | 34 | -14 |
| | O'Neill | 53 | 20 | 36 | -13 |
| NE | Concord | 53 | 23 | 36 | -13 |
| | Elgin | 53 | 23 | 36 | -14 |
| | West Point | 54 | 26 | 38 | -12 |
| C | Grand Island | 53 | 24 | 37 | -12 |
| | Lexington | 53 | 24 | 37 | -12 |
| | Ord | 54 | 23 | 37 | -12 |
| EC | Central City | 56 | 22 | 37 | -12 |
| | Lincoln | 53 | 29 | 40 | -12 |
| | Mead | 54 | 25 | 38 | -13 |
| SW | Champion | 59 | 27 | 38 | -11 |
| | Dickens | 56 | 22 | 36 | -13 |
| | McCook | 57 | 27 | 39 | -9 |
| SC | Minden | 52 | 23 | 37 | -12 |
| | Red Cloud | 54 | 24 | 39 | -10 |
| | Smithfield | 51 | 25 | 36 | -12 |
| SE | Beatrice | 53 | 27 | 39 | -12 |
| | Clay Center | 52 | 25 | 38 | -12 |
| | Nemaha | 63 | 28 | 41 | -11 |

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office